

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application.

The computer program listings in Appendices B-D are now provided on compact disc and are incorporated by reference into the application.

The title has been amended to be more descriptive.

Claims 1-6, 9-28, 30-36, 38-58, 60-66 and 68-83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,199,048 to Hudetz et al. ("Hudetz").

Claims 7, 29, 37, 59 and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hudetz.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. This application is a continuation of application 09/920,396, filed August 1, 2001 (Now 6,590,998), which is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/130,624, filed August 6, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,324,573), which is a continuation of Application Serial No. 08/508,083, filed July 27, 1995 (Now 5,841,978). Each of these priority applications includes the same subject matter supporting the pending claims as the application at issue. Therefore, the application is entitled to a priority date at least as early as July 27, 1995.

In contrast, Hudetz has a filing date of January 15, 1999. Hudetz purports to be a division of 08/538,365 (Now U.S. Patent 5,978,773), filed October 3, 1995, which claims priority to 60/000,442, filed June 20, 1995. The portions of Hudetz relied on to reject the claims are from portions of the specification that were not part of Hudetz's priority application 60/000,442, and are not entitled to the date of June 20, 1995. At most, these portions have a priority date of October 3, 1995. Therefore, Hudetz is not prior art to claims, and the rejection based on Hudetz should be withdrawn.

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Respectfully submitted,

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